

REMARKS

This letter is in response to the Examiner's letter of 4 May 2005. Applicants have reviewed the Examiner's comments and thank the Examiner for the withdrawal of the 35 USC §102 rejection. Applicants have reviewed the Examiner's formal requirements for obtaining an allowance of the claims. Claims 145 and 163 have been amended to remove any aspect of indefiniteness. Duplicate claim 168 has been cancelled. Claim 153 is now grammatically correct. Applicants review of the amended claims show that any 35 USC §112 ¶ 2 problems have been resolved.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request a Notice of Allowance. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

2 June 05
Date

Mark DiPietro
Mark DiPietro
Reg. No. 28,707
MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.
P.O. Box 2903
Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903
Telephone: (612) 371-5375
E-mail: mdipietro@merchant-gould.com

23552

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

K:\CLIENTS\00\00758\1100-1199\1149usd3\IP-Amendment AF2.doc